

# THE DAYTONA GAZETTE-NEWS.

Vol. 19, No. 19

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Daytona, Florida, Saturday, October 5, 1907.

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## CELERY CULTURE AROUND SANFORD.

What a Gazette-News Reader Saw in the Celery Belt Around Sanford on a Recent Visit.

Editor Gazette-News:—Thinking your readers would like to have a little account of the celery culture around Sanford, and of the land upon which it is grown, I will give you a short description of what I saw while there.

Arriving there Wednesday morning, I made arrangements to get an early start next morning to view the country. At an early hour Thursday I heard a bell ring and wondered what was meant by ringing a bell at that time in the day. Later I was called and told that if I wanted breakfast I had better get up as people there go to work at 5:30. Sure enough, when I went down at six o'clock breakfast was already over.

After breakfast I met Mr. Hendricks and we took a buggy and drove west of Sanford to his celery farm. I found he had accomplished a great deal in the short time he has been there. He has ten acres cleared and ready for the tiling to be placed for the irrigating system.

He has one two-inch well driven and started another one while I was there. These two will be all he will need for irrigating the ten acres. He has seed beds started for celery and lettuce. There are cypress fence posts enough growing on his lower land to nearly fence his farm.

After dinner we took a drive along Celery avenue, which runs east from Sanford four miles and ends at the St. John's river. This is a very pretty avenue along side of which are the celery farms of Sanford. These farms run inland on both sides of the avenue to the depth of about ten acres.

The soil is much like what we have here between Ridgewood avenue and the hammock—low, saw palmetto scrub—and some of it is too low for even them, but it slopes toward Lake Monroe and this makes it easy to drain and available for celery raising.

The farmers are all very particular to have the land very level, so that their irrigating system, which is the most important part of celery culture, can be used to the best advantage, without which celery growing would not amount to much. It is not necessary to have rich land, for this around Sanford is mostly sand, but it must be irrigated and drained, and then the crop is made with commercial fertilizers.

I was told there are only about 2,000 acres in the vicinity of Lake Monroe, which can be used for celery culture, on account of the necessity of having good flowing wells. These are very good within this radius, but can not be had further away.

As far as protection from the lake is concerned I am informed that everything but celery was frozen to the ground in 1906. Celery was not far enough advanced to sustain much damage but it was set back some, although it is a hardy plant.

Laborers get \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day of ten hours, according to their occupation, and girls and boys find employment in transplanting celery plants the first time at twenty cents per thousand, of which it takes 60,000 to the acre.

The farmers do not confine their crops to celery entirely, but raise lettuce, cauliflower, cabbage, etc., all of which can be grown on irrigated lands to perfection.

CARL G. WEINER.

Henry Van Dorn, of Daytona, has about completed sinking five four-inch wells, for the railroad company at the two mile post on the A. & W. Branch. These wells average about 119 feet in depth, and forces the water nine feet above the surface of the ground. Six inch pipe is being laid from the wells to the round house and they will furnish water for the locomotives on the road. A purifying plant will be erected to take the sulphur and salt from the water.—New Smyrna Breeze.

What is Lily Water? Call at the electric light plant.

## TWO LOOPS NECESSARY

To Accommodate the Racers on the Ormond-Daytona Beach at the Coming Tournament.

A letter from Major A. B. Foster, president of the Florida East Coast Automobile Association, assures the success of the coming racing tournament. President Foster has interviewed many of the manufacturers, and found them all very enthusiastic but they favor long distance events, which will make necessary the construction of loops at each end of the course so that racers can make the turn at a speed of approximately eighty miles per hour.

Many high power cars were built for the Vanderbilt Cup Race, which failed to occur, and the manufacturers are very anxious to exploit and try out these cars. It is also anticipated that many European makers will send cars if the loops are constructed so that the cars can run continuously for any distance. "Senator" W. J. Morgan and members of the racing board of the American Automobile Association are now arranging a program and expect to have it complete in a few days.

Major Foster expects to arrive from Cleveland about the last of this month, at which time motoring matters in connection with the Ormond-Daytona tournament will become lively.

## THE PROMISE IS VERY GOOD

For Prosperous Winter.—Real Estate Men Find Inquiries More Numerous than Usual.

A representative of the Gazette-News recently talked with members of the several real estate firms in the city in regard to the prospects for the coming season. They say it is still somewhat early to speak very definitely in the matter, but they are all receiving inquiries for houses to rent and property to purchase which would warrant the belief that Daytona and vicinity are entering upon a prosperous season, far better in fact in the rental of houses than last season or the one preceding it.

Following will be found the statements of these gentlemen as made to the reporter:

F. N. Conrad, of the Conrad Real Estate Company—Inquiries, particularly for houses to be rented, are coming in much better than last season and although it is yet early we have already rented four or five houses, several of them to parties who have not previously visited Daytona.

Bingham & Thompson—Applications and inquiries are coming in very freely and we look for a fine season. We have already rented five houses and have several more under option.

R. L. Smith—Present season will compare favorably with past seasons. Although it is yet early, inquiries are coming in freely and I am making preparations for a brisk season.

W. H. Edmondson, manager Norman S. Dayton Real Estate—No experience with the business here last season, but inquiries are coming in freely for both the purchase of property and the rent of houses, particularly the latter. We are encouraged to look for a good season.

C. S. Rieman—Inquiries are coming in freely, much more so than at this time last year and I find more interest shown in farm lands. I think it will prove a good season.

Col. W. M. Shaffner—Inquiries are coming in for the renting of cottages and also those looking toward the purchase of property. The promise is very good for this early in the season.

O. A. Hitch—Not able to compare with previous seasons, but find inquiries coming in nicely for both rent of houses and purchase of property. Looks promising for a good season.

An intimate knowledge of the building interests of this locality will save you many annoyances, and perhaps extra costs. Let us advise with you. It costs you nothing. Norman S. Dayton, Daytona.

## PROGRESS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Prof. Botts Writes Entertainingly on a Question that Interests Every Patron of our Public Schools.

I trust that some of our citizens have been interested enough, to wonder why the school board adopted the regulation requiring all pupils to take a uniform examination before being admitted into our high schools. And it is to answer this just query that I write this article, for some, I fancy, have felt that I was so anxious "to do something startling" that I recommended the measure just upon the general principal that "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

Let me state in the beginning that I did not suggest this regulation to the board until after mature deliberation, and after visiting many schools with this plan in view. I also conferred with others who are in position to feel the need of some such a regulation. It is not pleasant to receive censure. And it is exceedingly hard to deliberately plan a course of action that you have every reason to believe will be misunderstood and condemned by many personal friends—those who get hit always howl. After taking all this into consideration, we considered the ends as justifying the means.

The law gives every pupil, who finishes the eighth grade, a right to enter any high school in the county. On visiting the various schools, I found a very great difference in the quality of work being done, all purporting to be eighth grade. As late as February, I visited schools where the nominal eighth grade had not yet commenced on real eighth grade work, and yet some of these pupils were planning to enter our high schools, and no doubt, would have received their promotion cards.

The present teachers are not altogether responsible for this condition. Preceding teachers had promoted pupils from the seventh grade who had no where near completed the work of that grade, as it should be done. The "new teacher" in order to give satisfaction and hold her position, is compelled to keep up the farce and nominally at least, in some way get the pupils through another grade. And so the teachers are almost forced into a course of action which is at variance with their better judgment. And it takes more moral courage than most mortals possess to resist this temptation.

The personal factor was the bane of the old system of licensing teachers, and the elimination of this factor is the strongest feature in the present system. In order that the best interests of the schools shall be subserved, it is necessary that cold-blooded judgment alone determine the entrance qualifications to our high schools.

It would be very doubtful propriety for the school board to give the teachers of one school the right to discredit the promotion cards granted by a duly accredited teacher of another school, and yet it is not safe to receive all pupils into our high schools with no further proof of their fitness. Would it be just to put pupils who are poorly prepared for the work into the high school with those who have made careful preparation? Is it right to retard the work of a class and bring our high schools into disrepute, by trying to drag pupils along through the work when they are not prepared for it?

While in Tallahassee, I mentioned this question to Superintendent Holloway, and he said he felt that school officials should take some action relative to the matter. After maturing our plans, I prepared a circular letter and sent it to Supt. Holloway, asking if there was any feature in it that he or the State board would not indorse, and received the following reply: "Your circular letter relative to the better classification of your schools, has been received. I have examined its contents, and do not think there is anything in it to which the State Board of Education can object. On (Continued on last page.)"

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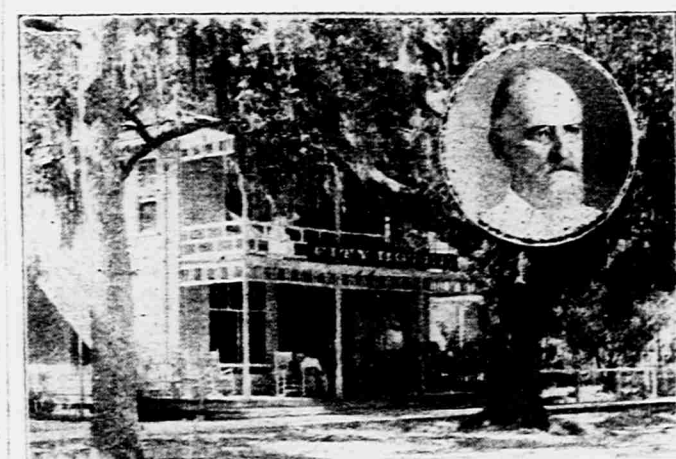
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